¡Puerto Rico No se Vende, se Defiende!

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Struggle-La-Lucha.org
Vol. 8, No. 1 • Jan. 13, 2025
Suggested donation: $1
Socialist Unity Party
Partido de Socialismo Unido

Condemn the New Orleans assault

No attack on immigrants

U.S. history of exploiting tragedy

By Workers Voice Socialist Movement in New Orleans, Louisiana

Repression and anti-immigrant scapegoating

New Orleans, Jan. 1 – Our condolences go out to the families and friends of those killed and injured in the horrific attack in the French Quarter of New Orleans. We condemn it completely.

We also call upon all people of conscience to be skeptical of the official FBI account. We especially warn against this attack being used as a pretext for the persecution of Middle Eastern people, Muslims, and immigrants, or to repress protests against Israeli genocide of Palestinians, or to justify martial law enforced by National Guard troops as requested by Governor Jeff Landry.

Bush admitted Iraq not responsible for WTC attack

We can see that the statements of Trump, Landry, local officials, and of the media and Congress represent yet another dangerous attempt to use a tragedy to carry out violence and harassment. Trump is already using this to carry out his vicious campaign of mass deportation, falsely suggesting that the alleged killer is an undocumented immigrant.

Today let us remember the words of Ryan Amundson, who lost family members on 9/11: "The loss of our family members has been used to justify war in Iraq, which has nothing to do with September 11. That's why we are here ... to say, not in my name, not in our name."

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'FUNDING TERROR ABROAD'

Stop the genocide in Palestine! Arms Embargo Now!

Gaza under siege: Kamal Adwan Hospital torched

The Panama Canal belongs to Panama!

Farewell to a revolutionary: Rochester's Lydia Bayoneta

¡Rudy Pisani Presente!

¡Sally O'Brien Presente!

Lydia Bayoneta confronting the KKK at Houston Women's Conference in 1977

Gen Z has nowhere to go

The erosion of third spaces in the U.S.

Against fascism: Reclaiming POPULISM's legacy for today's class struggle

The Wilmington Massacre

Condemn the New Orleans assault

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On the televised anniversary of the attacks on the World Trade Center, President Bush said, "I am often asked why are we in Iraq when Saddam Hussein was not responsible for the World Trade Center attacks." The answer is that the U.S. bombed and invaded Iraq to plunder its wealth, especially its oil, not because of the victims of 9/11, for whom Iraq was not responsible. More than a million Iraqis were killed. 4,000 U.S. soldiers died. Many still suffer from exposure to depleted uranium and others have died by suicide because of what they suffered during the war and occupation of Iraq.

In a Brookings Institute article from September 17, 2021, Bruce Reidel, National Security Adviser to Bush, wrote, "The Bush administration was eager to mobilize the anguish of the 9/11 attack to support the war. Despite the intelligence community's unequivocal conclusion that Iraq had nothing to do with either 9/11 or al-Qaida, the administration let Americans believe the contrary."

U.S. wars always start with lies and often start with false-flag operations. The Spanish-American war (the sinking of the USS Maine) and the Vietnam War (the Gulf of Tonkin "incident") are just two examples. The truth is that the 9/11 attackers were part of a network of terrorists trained, armed, and funded by the CIA in an effort (code named "Operation Cyclone") to crush a popular revolution in Afghanistan.

The truth about the U.S. and ISIS

Officials have acknowledged that the alleged killer was a citizen and U.S. Army reservist who worked on classified tech projects for the military. It is claimed he had an ISIS flag. It is very important that people know the real relationship of the U.S. with ISIS.

ISIS is a terrorist group that has been operating in the U.S.-occupied part of Syria and in Iraq since the U.S. occupation of Iraq. In 2012, Wikileaks exposed memos between the current National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan and then-Secretary of State Hillary Clinton that showed the U.S. was funding ISIS forces in an effort to overturn the Syrian government. These are the same forces that last month came to power in Syria with the assistance of U.S. special forces. Abu Mohammed al-Julani, the man who led the overthrow of the Syrian government, hails from the U.S.-armed branch of Al-Qaeda in Syria, formerly named Al-Nusra Front.

Why, in light of the current heartbreaking tragedy, are we raising this? Because it is important that we deal with this tragedy honestly and not allow it to be used to fulfill a policy objective of the Pentagon. We raise it because it is important that we know not to expect the U.S. government to put our safety first when, in reality, they are training and arming the very people they claim to be fighting, resulting in more lives lost.

We are raising this because we don't want the U.S. using our money to arm the genocidal Israeli assault on Palestinians nor their murderous bombings and campaign of land theft in Lebanon and Syria.

We are raising this because Landry, despite his crocodile tears, will use our grief and fear over this unjustifiable murder to flood New Orleans with the National Guard to carry out racial profiling, mass arrests, and repression of our rights. Trump will use the same excuse to carry out deportations and send soldiers to Syria and Lebanon.

We are raising this because the victims and their families do not deserve this. And because none of the false flags or lies about immigrants will do anything to improve the conditions or safety of the U.S. working class. They are used to justify militarism, impoverishment, and repression for us all.

Today's tragic attack requires a thorough and transparent investigation. Any assistance families need should be given immediately. In order to honor the victims, we must be vigilant and not allow their loss to be used to create more fear, violence, racism, and war. #

CHINA Celebrating 75 years of liberation

October 1, 2024, marks the 75th anniversary of China's socialist revolution, which liberated the nation from feudal oppression and imperialist control. Today, China stands as a global scientific powerhouse, boasting achievements in pollution reduction, and space exploration. China has made significant strides in healthcare, education, and sports.

This book aims to illuminate the growing dangers posed by a potential U.S. war against China and to reveal the real enemies of the working class. **https://tinyurl.com/USWarChina**

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Outrage in New Orleans:

‘Biden can’t condemn terror while funding it abroad’

By Gregory E. Williams

New Orleans, Jan. 6 — Joe Biden visited New Orleans today to commemorate the victims of the New Year’s morning mass killing by a U.S.-born military veteran from Texas that left 14 dead and 30 more injured in our city. Biden’s visit is a slap in the face to the people of the city. How can Biden come here to condemn terrorism when he’s one of the biggest terrorists on earth?

A New Orleans Palestinian community member told Struggle-La Lucha:

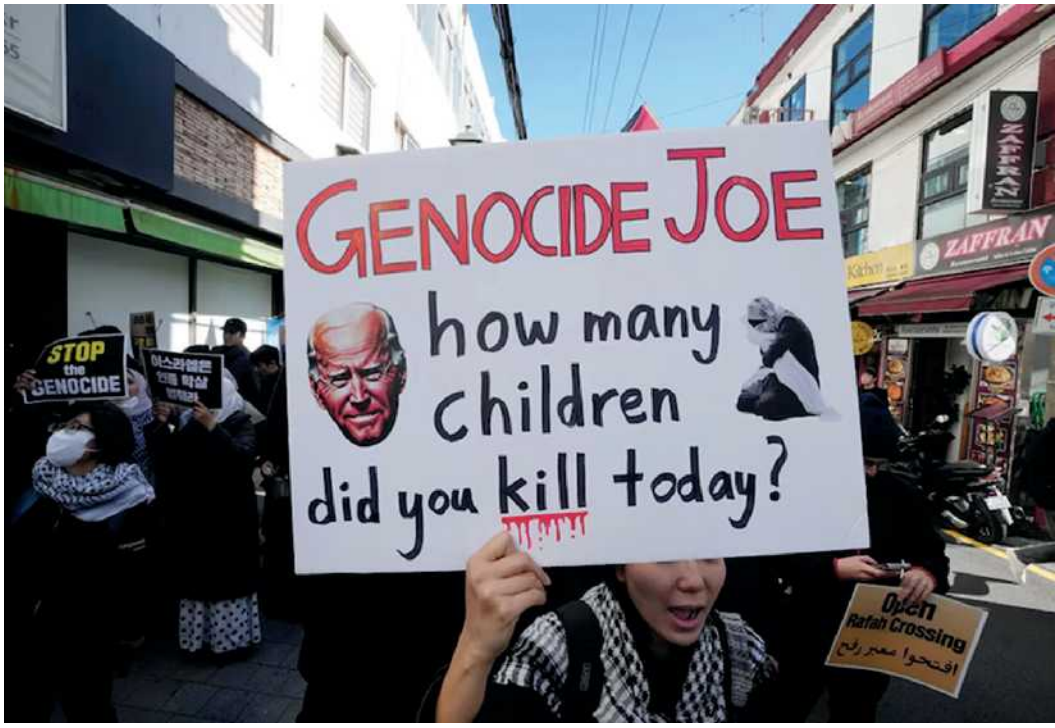
“Biden has overseen a number of Israeli military assaults on Gaza since taking office, culminating in a genocide on the Palestinians in Gaza. The fact that he came to New Orleans in the wake of the terror attack when his administration is responsible for the current terror in the Middle East is an insult to anyone who is aware of what’s happening in the world.”

Through his unconditional support for Israel’s genocide against the Palestinian people – the whole thing being carried out in the interests of Washington – he is responsible for burning children alive in refugee camps.

Just like Netanyahu, he is responsible for the recent murder of civilian doctors, nurses, and patients at Kamal Adwan Hospital. That was the last functioning hospital in Gaza. Biden and Netanyahu destroyed all the rest. How can someone who destroys hospitals – leaving premature babies to die in incubators – come to offer condolences to grieving New Orleans families and “condemn terror”?

The New Year’s attacker took the life of Kareem Badawi, an 18-year-old Palestinian American from Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Biden’s visit is a slap in the face to Badawi’s grieving family and the 10,000 Palestinian community members in the New Orleans area and others around the state.

As one of his last acts in office, Biden is providing another $8 billion in weapons to the Israeli regime. That’s on top of the record $17.9 billion in military aid since 2023. The Israeli regime uses these weapons to kill young people, just like Kareem Badawi.



‘For many of us the New Orleans city council’s refusal to demand a ceasefire in Gaza has lent legitimacy to Israel’s mindless, senseless, hate filled violence, a violence that from the point of view of its hundreds of thousands of victims in Gaza can only be described as terrorism.’

Some of that money that Biden spent to kill kids in Palestine could have helped the people of New Orleans. The U.S. Census says that the city’s poverty rate is a staggering 22.6%. Median household income is only $55,330 per year, but a recent Zillow report found that New Orleans households need to make $64,000 a year to afford rent.

The New Orleans working class never recovered after Hurricane Katrina in 2005. There was only a recovery for the rich. What did Biden do for New Orleans when he served as vice president under Obama for two terms post-Katrina? What has he done for New Orleans for the past four years?

New Orleans resident Kevin Ericksen stressed the importance of continuing to hold the city responsible for its participation in Israel’s genocide (via multiple economic ties), writing to Struggle-La Lucha:

“Hundreds of New Orleanians for over a year now have repeatedly asked our city council to call for a ceasefire in Gaza, effectively demanding an end to the mindless, senseless, hate filled violence that is being perpetuated against the people of Gaza, with America’s backing. And with the backing of the New Orleans city council, because their answer to our request for a ceasefire resolution, that would end the terror in Gaza, has been a loud ’No.’ For many of us the New Orleans city council’s refusal to demand a ceasefire in Gaza has lent legitimacy to Israel’s mindless, senseless, hate filled violence, a violence that from the point of view of its hundreds of thousands of victims in Gaza can only be described as terrorism. The New Orleans city council must reverse its decision and demand an end to the slaughter of innocents in Gaza.” #

Justice for Robert Brooks!

Prisons are concentration camps for the poor

By Stephen Millies

Millions of people have seen Robert Brooks beaten to death by prison guards in upstate New York on Dec. 9 last year. The 43-year-old Black man was killed at the Marcy Correctional Facility, located about seven miles from Utica, New York.

Cameras recorded the lynching committed by 13 correctional officers while a nurse looked on. Three of the guards had already been sued for previous assaults on inmates. Yet none were suspended, much less prosecuted for their brutality.

"This Marcy Correctional Facility is run by a mob," said Frederick Williams, an inmate who told CNN how he was beaten.

The December 12th Movement has taken the lead in demanding justice for Robert Brooks, the father of a son. On Dec. 30, they held a press conference in front of New York Gov. Kathy Hochul's New York City office.

Among the speakers demanding justice for Robert Brooks was State Senator Jabari Brisport, who represents the Bedford-Stuyvesant and Brownsville neighborhoods in Brooklyn.

"We are prepared to shut New York City down," declared the human rights attorney Roger Wareham, a member of the December 12th Movement's International Secretariat. "We will organize a general strike for justice."

In its news release, D12 said that "we understand what happened to Robert Brooks is not an aberration but an extreme example of what inmates of color face on a daily basis in the New York State prison system. Its goal, as it was on slave plantations, is to instill fear of and submission to authority in the minds of prisoners. ...

"Gov. Hochul and NYS Attorney General James, have spouted rhetoric about the firing and prosecution of the 13 corrections officers and one nurse involved but to date, nothing has happened. No arrests. No dismissals."

Racist vigilante goes free

The killing of Richard Brooks followed the acquittal of the white vigilante Daniel Penny, who strangled to death the Black homeless man Jordan Neely on May Day, 2023. Neely's death, committed by the martial arts expert Penny on a New York City subway car, was also recorded on film.

Robert Brooks beaten to death. Via bodycam.

The killer Penny became a hero for white supremacists across the United States and was the guest of fascist Trump at the Army-Navy football game.

As the December 12th statement pointed out, "after a jury acquitted Daniel Penny of his son's murder, Andre Zachary, the father of Jordan Neely, said 'We have to do something.' The question facing the Black community is simple: What are we going to do?"

The killers of Robert Brooks remain free. In contrast, the Black teenager Kalief Browder endured three years of hell in New York City's Rikers Island jail because his family couldn't afford $900 for bail. Browder's charges were dropped, but he was so traumatized that he hanged himself in 2015.

New York Governor Kathy Hochul wants to roll back bail reform so more poor people can be locked up without even being convicted.

The disgraced Andy Cuomo put Kathy Hochul on his ticket as Lieutenant Governor in order to appeal to anti-immigrant bigots.

As Erie County clerk in Buffalo, Hochul refused to issue drivers' licenses to undocumented immigrants despite a state law authorizing it. Hochul can't be trusted to get justice for Robert Brooks and his family.

Neither can New York Attorney General Letitia James. She recused her department from prosecuting Brooks' killers because it is defending three of them against earlier brutality claims.

James appointed Onondaga County District Attorney William Fitzpatrick to do so instead. Fitzpatrick had refused to prosecute the Syracuse, New York, cop who slammed the handcuffed Edward Jones into a police car in 2011. This was despite video evidence.

Don't let them cover up this lynching!

On Jan. 8, people are urged to call District Attorney Fitzpatrick at 315-435-2470 and NY Gov. Kathy Hochul at 518-474-8390 to demand justice for Robert Brooks.

The December 12th Movement held an emergency town hall meeting on Jan. 4 about the lynching of Robert Brooks. Sistas' Place in Bedford-Stuyvesant was packed with activists, including former prisoners.

A Town Hall meeting will be held on Jan. 7 at 6 p.m. at Bedford Central Presbyterian Church, 1200 Dean St., Brooklyn. Topics will include Justice for Robert Brooks and the closing of the Marcy Correctional Facility.

D12 has called a demonstration on Monday, Jan. 20 — the day when Trump's inauguration desecrates Dr. King's holiday — on Harriet Tubman Way (Fulton Street) in Bedford-Stuyvesant.

The Marcy Correctional Facility, where Robert Brooks was beaten to death, was constructed while Andy Cuo-

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Gen Z has nowhere to go:

The erosion of third spaces in the U.S.

By Jace Carter

A telltale sign of an empire in serious decline is the degree to which the ruling class continuously gaslights my generation, Gen Z, saying that if we all want to stop feeling so lonely and depressed — an unresolved effect of the COVID-19 crisis almost five years ago — we need to "get off TikTok and our damn phones and go outside to socialize."

The same ruling class that created these material conditions by grooming us to become hyper-individualistic. Where exactly are we supposed to go to "socialize" when we neither have the time nor, most importantly, the money for it? What about those who are stuck having to live at home with their likely strict parents, either in towns or cities that are too far from where most of their friends currently are, or in suburban areas that severely lack third spaces?

If there's one thing that living on my own as a post-grad has shown me so far, it is that there are increasingly less third spaces available for my friends/comrades and I to actually enjoy without having to pay an exorbitant amount of money and/or being subjected to ridiculous restrictions and rules that make these experiences not worth the energy.

A disgusting tactic that bowling alleys, escape rooms, and places like TopGolf employ to be able to offset their high commercial rent is the "variable pricing" model, which basically means that at noon, it could be $15/person to play for only 1-2 hours, but then at 5 p.m., it will skyrocket up to $45/person for only the same amount of time.

Then there are other spaces like arcades and skating rinks that still use a "fixed price" model with no imposed time limit per se, except that the admission fee and skate rental or the cost of a game card is inherently higher.

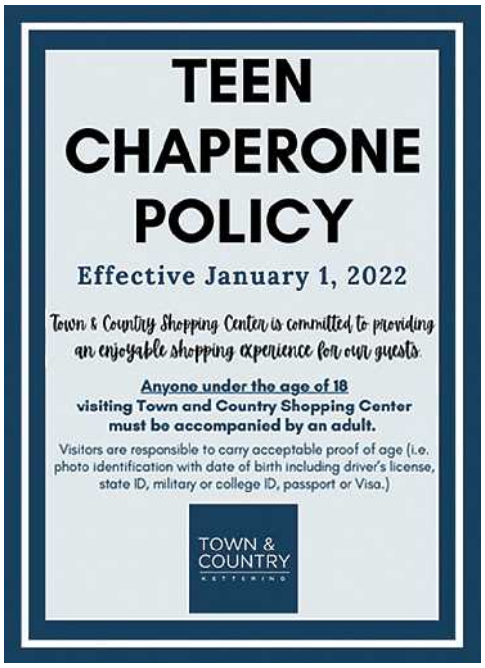
How long we end up staying in these spaces boils down to two key factors: 1) how much money we're willing to burn, and/or 2) how much spare time we have before inevitably having to work the next day.

Don't even get me started on food/drink costs in these establishments. Considering that on average, we as a generation are spending as little as $100-200 per week on groceries just to survive, what's the point in even paying $25 for bland, unseasoned wings plus $9-10 for alcoholic drinks at an arcade or bowling alley? We might as well just go down to the nearest gastropub, microbrewery or upscale club or lounge in the most gentrified part of town if those are the insane costs we must pay!

The last time I checked, these places were supposed to be a primary source of joy and relaxation, where we could spend hours upon hours just having a good time with our friends. Instead, we now get stressed out at the mere thought of trying to make fun plans, and some places don't even advertise their prices upfront online; they can only be seen inside the actual establishment, which creates more pressure.

The capitalists love feeding off this increased pressure and anxiety. When time's up and we can't afford to pay for more time, don't think that we're able to just freely hang around with our friends in these spaces either. These privatized places either want us to keep spending our money or go home, as doing either of those things constitutes "loitering," especially when it's teens doing it, and management won't hesitate to call the police on anyone they deem to be a "nuisance." Who amongst teens and young adults predominantly gets targeted?

In most (if not all) malls now, after 4 p.m. on weekends, anyone under 17 years old must be accompanied by either a parent or supervising adult who is 21 years old or older, or they have to leave the mall immediately. They also require both the youth and supervising adult to carry ID with them, as either one of them could be pulled to the side and asked this by a police officer at any time.


TEEN
CHAPERONE
POLICY
Effective January 1, 2022
Town & Country Shopping Center is committed to providing an enjoyable shopping experience for our guests
Anyone under the age of 18
visiting Town and Country Shopping Center
must be accompanied by an adult.
Visitors are responsible to carry acceptable proof of age (i.e. photo identification with date of birth including driver's license, state ID, military or college ID, passport or Visa.)
TOWN & COUNTRY

This draconian policy inherently targets Black and Brown children, especially from poor and single-parent households. Teens, like all of us, just want to spend time with their friends. This policy assumes parents even have the availability to come to the mall so their kids can socialize. It puts pressure on working families, and places an extra burden on single parents. Perhaps worst of all, it restricts kids who have no adult figure.

End-stage capitalism has greatly strained personal relationships due to most people either having to work multiple jobs to barely survive, or are stuck living with their parents in their 20s and 30s, being nowhere near friends or a caring community.

Because of both the severe lack of third spaces and the insanely high costs to even access most of them, we have been forced to normalize the absolute mundane in life and forced to adopt very minimalist ways of thinking. I can clearly see that Gen Z and Gen Alpha are reaching a boiling point, especially considering that the U.S. government is hell-bent on fully banning TikTok next month if Bytedance does not divest from the app. What becomes of a generation that has been completely disinherited? #

Justice for Robert Brooks!

Continued from page 4

mo's daddy, the liberal saint Mario Cuomo, was governor.

The elder Cuomo built more prisons — a total of 30 — than any other New York governor. He obscenely used billions that were supposed to build affordable housing under legislation that honored Dr. Martin Luther King and built penitentiaries instead.

The two million prisoners locked up across the United States are members of the working class. Prisons are concentration camps for the poor. Donald Trump and Elon Musk should be locked up instead. #

GAZA UNDER SIEGE:

Kamal Adwan Hospital torched, patients and staff forced out

By Maggie Vascassenno

Los Angeles, Dec. 27 — It was drizzling outside when dozens took to the streets at the Los Angeles Times newspaper headquarters in an emergency action to save Kamal Adwan Hospital. Kamal Adwan was the last functioning hospital in North Gaza.

Demonstrators denounced the collaboration of Big Media with the U.S.-backed Israeli genocide in Gaza. A protest organizer, in an impassioned plea, called out to the Times, "You are directly complicit in the media blackout of genocide! The blood is on your hands. We demand safety for Kamal Adwan survivors in North Gaza. We demand safety for journalists. We demand you take a stand, L.A. Times!"

At noon, the protesters were honored with a call from the courageous Mahmoud Bassal, PhD, spokesperson for the North Gaza Civil Defense. Fatinah Judeh of Unmute Humanity, a media-watch group, translated the painful information from Dr. Bassal, who spoke the truth about the depths of depravity carried out by the U.S./Israeli criminals.

The action was live-streamed on social media to tens of thousands more from Gaza to L.A. Soon after the call, we learned that the Director of the North Gaza Civil Defense had been abducted to an Israeli torture camp.

In another powerful call, we heard from Hamza Hammad, a journalist in North Gaza. They reported on the five journalists who were targeted and killed by the IOF when they bombed a

van clearly marked PRESS.

The bourgeois press covered up the atrocity by saying the journalists were Hamas.

Big Business Media lied. Again.

As of Friday, Dec. 27, 201 journalists have been targeted and killed. Hamza Hammad also updated us on the status of Kamal Adwan Hospital.

All the speakers focused on the grave danger to Dr. Hussam Abu Safiya, the director of Kamal Adwan Hospital. In the march around the L.A. Times build-

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Protest in Los Angeles on Dec. 27. There is an international campaign to Free Dr Hussam Abu Safiya. Photo: @editsforPalestine

Kamal Adwan Hospital torched

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ing, signs bearing his likeness and the words, "I will stay inside my hospital until the last moment," were carried.

Initiators and endorsers of the emergency action included Riverside 4 Palestine, Unmute Humanity, SAG-AFTRA for Ceasefire, Veterans for Peace, Harriet Tubman Center for Social Justice, Liyang, Palestinian Christians for Justice, and Asian Youth Collective.

Within hours after the emergency action, word spread that whole sections of the hospital were torched. Patients and staff were abducted and forced out. Dr Hussam Abu Safiya was abducted. One of Dr Abu Safiya's sons was killed by the IOF in October 2024. In a message on Instagram, Dr Abu Safiya's surviving son confirmed his father was sent to Sde Teiman, the most notorious Israeli "prison" torture camp. There is now an international campaign to Free Dr Hussam Abu Safiya. #

A new year of struggle for Palestine in NYC

By Struggle-La Lucha New York bureau

New York, Jan. 1 — A thousand people came to Times Square in Manhattan on New Year's Day to stop the genocide in Palestine and Lebanon. The latest atrocity is the Zionist regime's attack on Kamal Adwan Hospital, the last remaining hospital in northern Gaza.

Biden and Trump were denounced for supporting Netanyahu's Pentagon-supplied mass murder. Chants echoed off the gaudy flashing billboards surrounding Times Square.

The militant action was called by the Shut It Down 4 Palestine Coalition. Speakers represented the Palestinian Youth Movement; Mamas For a Free Palestine; Healthcare Workers for Palestine; PAL-AWDA NY/NJ; The People's Forum; and the Party for Socialism and Liberation.

People marched uptown and then across 54th Street, past Broadway theatres and the Rockefeller dynasty's Museum of Modern Art. Window shoppers gawking at the fancy stores on Fifth Avenue showed support, as did visitors on a tourist bus on 42nd Street.

Coming back to Times Square, marchers held a brief rally. Palestinian supporters are determined to start a New Year of struggle. The people of the world are demanding a ceasefire to the U.S. / Zionist genocide. #

Times Square, NY on Jan. 1 — A thousand people came to Times Square

SLL photo: Stephen Millies

Stop the genocide in Palestine! Arms embargo now!

By Struggle-La Lucha New York bureau

Dec. 21 — Freezing weather didn't stop hundreds of people from rallying in New York City's Times Square today to demand a ceasefire in Gaza. The Shut It Down 4 Palestine Coalition called the action on the last Saturday before Christmas.

The coalition demanded "an arms embargo, lifting the siege on Gaza, freedom for our political prisoners, an end to the genocide, and a free Palestine, from the river to sea."

The 80,000 tons of bombs shipped by Genocide Joe Biden have killed at least 50,000 Palestinians, including tens of thousands of children. Fascist Donald Trump will continue the mass murder as well as the U.S. bombing and occupation of Syria.

U.S.-made and paid-for munitions have killed thousands in Lebanon. Heroic Yemen has been bombed by the U.S., Britain, and the Zionist apartheid regime.

As the statement of the Shut It Down 4 Palestine Coalition pointed out, "A child is murdered in Gaza every 30 minutes. Journalists have been systematically targeted: 196 journalists have been murdered by Israel. ...

"About 96% of children in Gaza fear imminent death at the hands of Zionist soldiers, from starvation, from freezing to death. Over 1,000 doctors and nurses have been intentionally murdered in Gaza, with many more disappeared in Zionist dungeons."

Thousands of shoppers and tourists saw the protest. Many showed their support.

Speakers from the Palestinian Youth Movement, The People's Forum, and the Party for Socialism and Liberation denounced the ongoing genocide. They described how children are freezing to death in Gaza.

So are homeless people in the United States. The tens of billions the U.S. capitalist government gives to war criminal Netanyahu kills them both.

People chanted, "From the river to the sea, Palestine will be free!" A drummer punctuated the chants.

Protesters marched down Broadway to Manhattan's Herald Square and then to the great reference library on Fifth Avenue. Marching through the holiday shopping booths erected in Bryant Park, some of the workers gave a thumbs-up to protesters.

Activists are organizing to protest Trump's inauguration on Jan. 20, 2025, which desecrates the federal holiday commemorating the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. People will demonstrate in Washington, D.C., and across the country, including in New York City's Washington Square Park in Manhattan.

Arms embargo now! Free Palestine! #

SLL photo: Stephen Millies

Never forget that thousands of Black workers died building the Panama Canal

By Stephen Millies

Donald Trump declared that if the Panama Canal's tolls for ships passing through it didn't decrease, he would seize the waterway. Trump's fascist rant is like one of Hitler's threats.

Panamanian President José Raúl Mulino Quintero denounced Trump's comments: "Every square meter of the Panama Canal and the surrounding area belongs to Panama and will continue belonging [to Panama]." Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum also supported Panama's sovereignty.

Listen up, billionaires: the Panama Canal belongs to Panama! This fact isn't just because of geography.

Hundreds of thousands of Panamanians are descendants of those who built the canal. Between 1904 and 1914, the U.S. Government brought 100,000 Black workers from the Caribbean to cut through miles of rock.

Barbados alone supplied at least 20,000 workers to build the canal. The recruitment reduced the island's population from 200,000 in 1900 to 172,000 ten years later.

Forty percent of Barbados's working-age men were summoned to build the canal. Some historians believe the actual number of Barbadians who worked on the canal was 30,000 to 60,000. Thousands of Jamaicans and other West Indians were also canal builders.

This work was hell — the previous French effort to build a canal cost 22,000 lives.

The official number of those killed from 1904 to 1914 when the U.S. government was in control was 5,607. Three-quarters of the workers killed — 4,290 — were from the Caribbean. The actual figure may have been much higher.

Just in 1910, at least 548 workers were killed. The toll included 167 workers from Barbados, 113 from Jamaica, 49 from Martinique and Guadeloupe, and 60 from other Caribbean islands. In addition, there were 48 workers from Spain, 36 from Colombia and Panama, and 31 from the United States who were killed.

Gold and silver racism

In the same 11-year period, while this industrial murder was going on, at least 702 Black people were lynched in the United States.

Along with cranes and dynamite, Uncle Sam exported Jim Crow racism to Panama.

White canal workers were paid in gold, while Black workers were paid in silver at lower wages. Housing was completely segregated for decades afterward.

There were no unions or workers' compensation laws to protect employees. Canal authorities agreed in 1908 to supply artificial limbs to some of the workers who were maimed.

Workers had to be found not at fault for their severed limbs. Those injured on trains going to a work site weren't covered.

The A.A. Marks company, located in Brooklyn, New York, boasted in its advertisements that it had sold over 200 prostheses.

As the historian Caroline Lieffers noted, "The company had aggressively courted the Canal Commission's business, and they were delighted with the payoff."

Yankee colonialism

President Teddy Roosevelt used the U.S. Navy to force the secession of Panama from Colombia. A five-mile strip on either side of the canal cut Panama in two and operated as a U.S. territory for decades.

Panamanians and all of Latin America resented this colonialism. It wasn't until 1963 that the U.S. agreed to display the Panamanian flag alongside the Stars and Stripes.

In January 1964, racist students inside the Canal Zone — supported by their parents — tore down a Panamanian flag. This was like the fascist mob that tried to stop the admission of the Black student James Meridith to the University of Mississippi in 1962.

Protest in Panama.

Twenty-two Panamanian people protesting these bigots were shot down by U.S. troops on Jan. 9, 1964. Every year, the Ninth of January is commemorated in Panama as Martyrs Day.

The United States was forced to cede control of the canal to Panama, although the final turnover didn't take place until 1999. In the meantime, President George H.W. Bush invaded Panama in 1989 with 22,000 troops.

While the Pentagon claimed 514 Panamanians were killed, the actual count was over a thousand. Bodies were thrown into mass graves, similar to what is happening in Gaza today. Twenty thousand homes were destroyed.

Bush called this mass murder "Operation Just Cause." In 2022, Panama's President Laurentino Cortizo established Dec. 20 — the date of the U.S. invasion — as a national day of mourning.

Only the people can defeat Trump!

None of Trump's threats should be dismissed as temper tantrums. A large section of the ruling class is behind the wannabe fascist dictator. The super-rich want to privatize the Post Office and gut Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid.

Many of the biggest billionaires, like Microsoft's Bill Gates and Facebook's Mark Zuckerberg, congratulated Trump upon being elected president. The leaders of the Democratic Party support the genocide in Gaza just as much as the Christian Nationalist Republicans.

Right now, the wealthy and powerful feel they are on a roll. The conquest

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How the wealthy engineered white supremacy: The Wilmington Massacre

By Gregory E. Williams

The Wilmington, North Carolina, massacre of 1898, also called a coup, was not a spontaneous eruption of white supremacist violence, but instead came from the top leadership of the Democratic Party and was backed by the rich. The purpose was to drive Black people out of public life and ensure minority rule by wealthy white businessmen. How did they pull this off? Manipulation of the mass media was a principal factor, along with setting up pseudo-grassroots organizations throughout the state.

The road to 1898 began some 28 years earlier when the Democrats retook control of the state legislature in 1870. Over this long period, they whittled away at the gains of Reconstruction in North Carolina. Despite that, both the Republicans and the People's Party continued to challenge the openly racist Democratic Party throughout the period.

As Thomas Frank put it, "This was the state where Populism – in 'fusion' with the local Republican Party — actually captured the government in 1894 and '96 and then made reforms that allowed Black [people] to sometimes gain political power in places where they were in the majority." ("The People, No: A Brief History of Anti-Populism")

The fusion movement won all the statewide races in 1894 and 1896, in fact. This was a significant challenge to the moneyed elites. And despite the national turn (the reactionary Supreme Court enacted the apartheid "separate but equal" doctrine in 1896 in the Plessy v. Ferguson ruling) the city of Wilmington was one place where Black people continued to hold public office, and it was also governed by a Populist-Republican fusion coalition.

The White Supremacy Campaign

In 1898, North Carolina's seats in both the U.S. House and Senate were up for grabs, with urban Wilmington being important in these elections, giving the events a national significance. The new Democratic state party chair was Furnifold McLendel Simmons. He was born on his father's plantation in 1854 and lived until 1940, even chairing the U.S. Senate Finance Committee during WWI. In 1897, Simmons was tasked with developing a strategy for the Democrats to secure power in North Carolina, and that strategy was bluntly named the White Supremacy Campaign.

The idea was this: If they could make anti-Blackness the number one political issue, crowding everything else out, then they could defeat any Republican and People's Party challengers. On top of that, real-world violence (as well as the threat of violence) could effectively prevent masses of Black voters from going to the polls.

In practice, the strategy worked just as planned. But as Timothy B. Tyson put it, "A propaganda campaign slandering African-Americans would not come cheap. Simmons made secret deals with railroads, banks and industrialists. In exchange for donations right away, the Democrats pledged to slash corporate taxes after their victory." (The Ghosts of 1898: Wilmington's Race Riot and the Rise of White Supremacy).

Sound familiar? The White Supremacy Campaign was backed by the rich and carried out on their behalf, just like today's movements targeting immigrants, LGBTQ+, and other oppressed people.

Racist media manipulation and phony grassroots organizations

Tyson continues:

"At the center of their strategy lay the gifts and assets of [Josephus] Daniels, editor and publisher of The News and Observer [newspaper]. He spearheaded a propaganda effort that made white partisans angry enough to commit electoral fraud and mass murder. It would not be merely a campaign of heated rhetoric but also one of violence and intimidation. Daniels called Simmons 'a genius in putting everybody to work — men who could write, men who could speak, and men who could ride — the last by no means the least important.' By 'ride,' Daniels employed a euphemism for vigilante terror. Black North Carolinians had to be kept away from the polls by any means necessary."

In the statewide press, Daniels harped on the horror of Wilmington, the center of "Negro domination" in the state. (Never mind that the state legislature was 2/3rds white.) This is very similar to the politics in contemporary Louisiana, where Governor Jeff Landry whips up fear about violent crime centered in majority-Black metro New Orleans and Baton Rouge.

Simmons tapped the talented young cartoonist Norman Jennett to crystalize the campaign's message into memorable images. His caricatures were like the racist memes of that era, and the antithesis of the iconic class-conscious labor cartoons of the period. They were designed to produce an immediate, visceral reaction.

The campaign's leaders went so far as to establish white supremacist clubs across the state, creating the impression of a popular groundswell. This top-down method for generating reactionary outrage has had a long life mirrored in today's well-funded, fake grassroots organizations like Moms for Liberty and "school choice" outfits. These types of groups successfully get media coverage, presenting themselves as concerned parents who happened to come together over a common cause when really they are funded by the billionaire Koch brothers or the Wal-Mart heirs.

Perhaps even more outrageous, the North Carolina racists set up a phony White Labor Union backed by the Wilmington Chamber of Commerce and the Merchant's Association. Through this organization, they could divert some white workers from their real grievances against the bosses and focus their anxiety onto competition with Black workers, uniting them in a campaign to keep Black workers out of the more desirable jobs — and elected offices.

As we have seen previously, this kind of deceptive appeal to the working class became a hallmark of fascism in the 20th Century. It aimed to draw workers away from the real organizations that fought for their interests.

In Wilmington, the statewide White Supremacy Campaign linked up with the "Secret Nine," a grouping of nine wealthy white men who were plotting a coup against the Wilmington gov-

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# of 1898

PART 6 *Against fascism: Reclaiming* **POPULISM**'*s legacy for today's* **CLASS** *struggle*

Continued from page 10

ernment. Their plans culminated in the Wilmington massacre. State Party Chair Simmons worked with the Nine. Therefore, the Wilmington events can only be understood in relation to this bigger campaign of state and national politics. And those events certainly did not well up from the white working class in Wilmington or elsewhere.

Poor white Southerners lacked leadership

In assessing the pre-populist Reconstruction period, W.E.B. du Bois pointed out a key flaw in all attempts to transform the society of the South: The Southern white working class lacked leadership of their own, and therefore tended to be led by the rich white planters whose class interests were diametrically opposed to their own. This was analogous to those workers today who think that apartheid South African emerald-mine heir Elon Musk has the same interests as them. Du Bois said:

"The mass of poor whites were in an anomalous position. Those of them who were intelligent or had during slavery accumulated any capital or achieved any position, had always attached themselves in sympathy and interest to the planter class. This meant that the mass of ignorant poor white labor had practically no intelligent leadership. Only here and there were there men, like Hinton Helper [still a white supremacist], who were actual leaders of the poor whites against the planters. The poor white was in a quandary with regard to emancipation. He had viewed slavery as the cause of his own degradation, but he now viewed the free Negro as a threat to his very existence. Suppose that freedom for the Negro meant that Negroes might rise to be landholders, planters and employers? The poor whites thus might lose the last shred of respectability. They had been used to seeing certain classes of the Black slaves above them in economic prosperity and social power. But after all, they were still Negroes and slaves. Now that freedom had come, poor whites were faced by the dilemma of recognizing the Negroes as equals or of bending every effort to still keep them beneath the white mass in income and social power." (Black Reconstruction in America)

If Southern white workers had historically lacked their own leadership, then the advent of populism in the post-Reconstruction period was one solution to that problem. It was not the solution, only a start. As we have already pointed out, there were many contradictions. For example, the movement included wealthier farmers who tended to dominate organizations. Anti-segregationist tendencies struggled with segregationist tendencies. But it still was a start. Organizing was happening across the color line — imperfectly, in fits and starts. But it was happening.

Poor farmers in the South and West were teaming up with industrial labor unions and identifying common ene-

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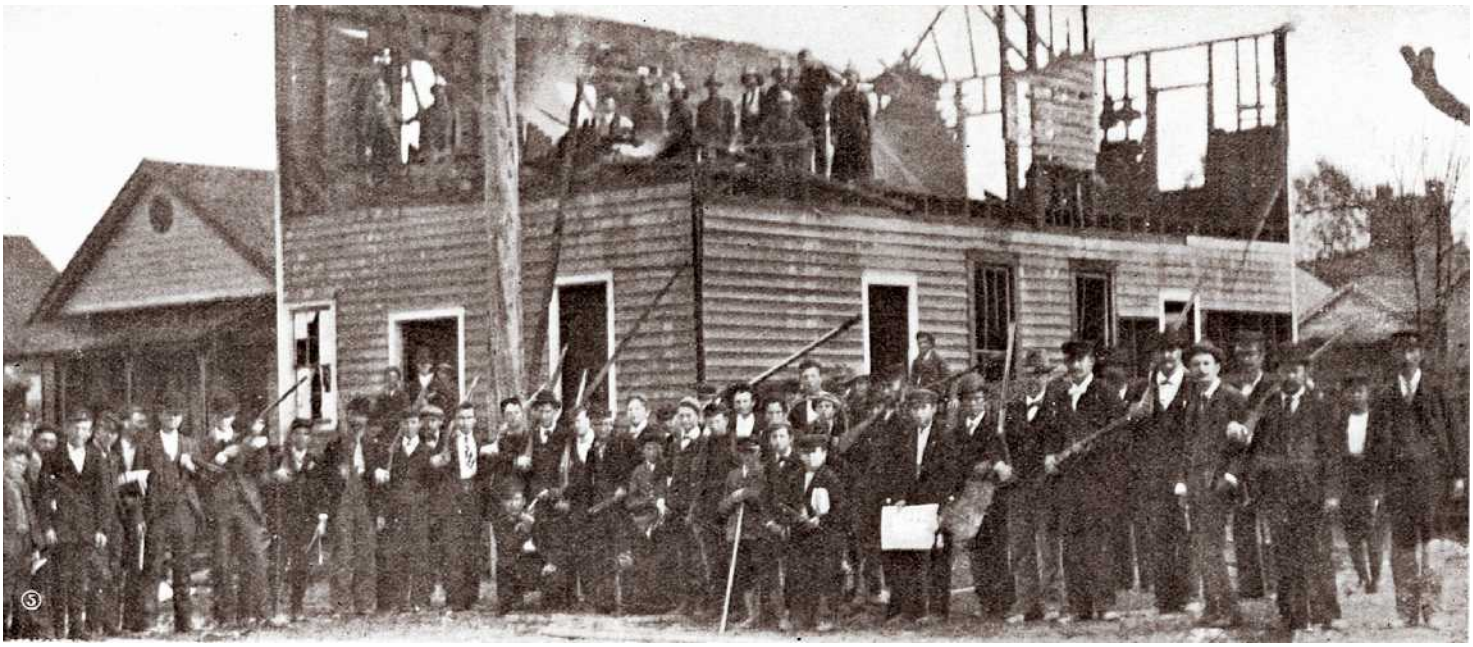

White Supremacy Campaign leaders provided the white mobs with food and liquor. They spent $1,200 on an early mounted machine gun, the Gatling gun, to use against unarmed Black people. On Nov. 10, 1898 a crowd of 2,000 burned down the Black-owned Daily Record at the instruction of former Confederate Colonel Alfred Waddell, who was leading hate rallies. They beat and intimidated every Black person they could find, especially those who had the audacity to exercise their legal right to vote. Estimates of the dead range from 60 to over 300 people. What is clear is that communities were torn apart as thousands of Black people fled the city along with white people whom the racists identified as allies of Black Wilmingtonians.

How the wealthy engineered white supremacy:

The Wilmington Massacre of 1898

Continued from page 11

mies in the capitalist class. When the ruling class got the ideological and organizational upper hand with the White Supremacy Campaign and similar onslaughts, this progress was reversed. The Southern white working class went back to following the rich planters and the multinational working-class movement was severely weakened. Then as now, white supremacy is capitalist-class supremacy.

A 'vile and villainous' editorial

It should now be clear that the scene was primed for violence because of the White Supremacy Campaign. No one local incident could be the necessary cause. The powder keg had to already be there in order for something to set it off. One such incident is the response of a Black newspaper editorial to a violent speech calling for the mass murder of Black men.

The one who gave that speech was savvy political figure Rebecca Latimer Felton. She was born to rich Georgia slave owners and upon reaching adulthood, owned slaves herself, along with husband William Harrell Felton. She was the main strategist and propagandist behind her husband's political career, leading him to three stints in the U.S. House as an independent Democrat. Rebecca Felton herself became the first woman in the U.S. Senate in 1922, serving for one day.

The contradictory nature of the Feltons' politics made them especially dangerous. Rebecca was a prominent proponent of women's suffrage – white women's suffrage. They supported education reform and some other progressive causes of the day. They sometimes moved in the same circles as the Populists. But they were dyed-in-the-wool racists. The Civil War had not cured these former slave-owners of their old views.

On Aug. 11, 1897, Rebecca Felton addressed the Georgia Agricultural Society, making her pitch for mass lynching. She brought up the old trope about Black men raping white women and said, "If it needs lynching to protect woman's dearest possession from the ravening human beasts – then I say lynch, a thousand times a week if necessary."

Black Wilmington newspaper editor Alexander Lightfoot Manly responded with an editorial in his paper, The Daily Record, which may have been the only Black-owned daily newspaper in the country at the time. (Manly was the son of a freedman and a free woman of color. He was a descendant of North Carolina Governor Charles Manly and a woman the governor enslaved, Corinne Manly. Alexander Manly graduated from the historically Black Hampton University in Virginia before settling in Wilmington.)

Manly published his response to Felton's disgusting speech barely a week later on Aug. 18, 1898 barely a week after it had been reprinted. He called out the hypocrisy of the white demagogues who harp on alleged Black rapists while white men are allowed – in fact encouraged by all the social institutions – to sexually abuse Black women. And he affirmed in no uncertain terms that most sexual and romantic relations between Black men and white women were consensual; that was intolerable to the racists. In part, Manly's letter read:

"Mrs. Felton begins well, for she admits that education will better protect the girls on the farm from the assaulter. This we admit and it should not be confined to the white any more than to the colored girls. The papers are filled often with reports of rapes of white women and the subsequent lynchings of the alleged rapists. The editors pour forth volumes of aspersions against all Negroes because of the few who may be guilty. If the papers and speakers of the other race would condemn the commission of the crime because it is crime and not try to make it appear that the Negroes were the only criminals, they would find their strongest allies in the intelligent Negroes themselves; and together the whites and Blacks would root the evil out of both races. ... Don't ever think that your women will remain pure while you are debauching ours. You sow the seeds – the harvest will come in due time."

Despite the dated patriarchal language about women's purity, the truth of Manly's words comes through. It was a fact that women of African descent were sexually abused from slavery on down – systematically.

Manly was quite restrained considering the speech he was responding to. The response of the racist press was rather less so. A headline in the Aug. 24 issue of the Wilmington Star read: "Vile and Villainous...Outrageous Attack on White Women by a Negro Paper Published in Wilmington." Below this headline was a paragraph implying imminent danger for the white population followed by a long excerpt from Manly's editorial. Similar coverage appeared all over the state.

A pogrom and a coup d'etat

This hysterical press reaction was just the beginning. In the leadup to the Nov. 8 statewide elections, the Secret Nine and their movement terrorized Wilmington's Black population. These were pogroms, that is, violent riots meant to harm, intimidate, and expel oppressed minority groups. The word entered English through Russian and Yiddish and referred mainly to anti-Jewish riots in the old Russian Empire stoked by the Czarist regime. Kristallnacht (Night of Broken Glass) was one of the most infamous pogroms. It was carried out in Germany by the Nazis in 1938. The name referred to the shards of glass littering the streets after fascist mobs smashed the windows of Jewish synagogues, shops, and other buildings. The Klan's decades of terrorism following the U.S. Civil War provide many more examples. Wilmington and the Red Shirts – modeled on the Klan and backed by the Democratic Party – was a big one. It was also a coup d'etat.

White Supremacy Campaign leaders provided the white mobs with food and liquor. They spent $1,200 on an early mounted machine gun, the Gatling gun, to use against unarmed Black people. On Nov. 10, a crowd of 2,000 burned down the Black-owned Daily Record at the instruction of former Confederate Colonel Alfred Waddell, who was leading hate rallies. They beat and intimidated every Black person they could find, especially those who had the audacity to exercise their legal right to vote. Estimates of the dead range from 60 to over 300 people. What is clear is that communities were torn apart as thousands of Black people fled the city along with white people whom the racists identified as allies of the Black Wilmingtonians.

The coup perpetrators kicked out the Black office-holders and threw out the aldermen, replacing them with their own people who then appointed Alfred Waddell as mayor. He illegally remained in

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The People's Party had its basis in the massive agricultural alliances that sprang up in the 1870s, including Black farmers' alliances. The movement repeatedly attempted to organize white and Black farmers on the basis of their shared class interests. Movement leaders were keenly aware of these shared interests. That was their objective situation, and they knew that in order to take on the rich, multi-racial collaboration was necessary. This fact could not prevent all racism in the movement, and movement segregation was never overcome. And when the movement waned the racist elements could come to the fore. (Wilmington in 1898 was one of the last stands of populism, with the People's Party dwindling to a tiny size). This shift to the right was driven in part by the pressures of things like the White Supremacy Campaign.

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that position until 1906. The Democratic Party's white supremacist candidates won the congressional elections and in the following years, Black North Carolinians were effectively disenfranchised.

Scramble to be the biggest racist

Populist politicians had worked together with Republicans in the Wilmington fusion government. By the nature of the enterprise, this coalition challenged racism. As described previously in this series, the populist movement involved repeated attempts to combine the strength of both the Black and white laboring masses on the basis of their shared class interests. But was the populist movement totally insulated from racism? Did the populists in North Carolina maintain a principled stand against the White Supremacy Campaign? Unfortunately, the answer to both these questions is "no."

Take the editorial published first in the Progressive Farmer and reprinted in the Charlotte People's Paper on Nov. 4, just before the election. The article correctly characterizes the Democratic Party's White Supremacy Campaign as swindling whose real objective was to secure "a legislature which will be the tool of plutocracy – of the moneyed men, and that will give us an election law, whose meaning shall be 'those who own property must rule.'"

Very well, but the author went on to say that among the Democrats there is "not one who is a more earnest advocate of white supremacy than we." There we have it! Sections of the populist movement attacked the Democrats from the right, attempting to prove that they were the true white supremacists.

This should be familiar to us today. This sort of capitulation happens when sections of the progressive movement adopt transphobic and other reactionary positions. It happens when sections of the progressive movement attack Palestine solidarity, following the lead of the Democratic Party. Something similar happens when politicians elected to Congress on a progressive ticket vote in favor of the war budget. Something similar happens when supposedly progressive politicians try to out-Trump Trump by demonizing immigrants and trans people. That does not mean that today's movements that enable the election of progressive-talking candidates are disingenuous, and even less so is the case of populism, which involved a big wave of organizing against the big corporations and banks in the 1890s.

As we have seen, this movement had its basis in the massive agricultural alliances that sprang up in the 1870s, including Black farmers' alliances. The movement repeatedly attempted to organize white and Black farmers on the basis of their shared class interests. Movement leaders were keenly aware of these shared interests. That was their objective situation, and they knew that in order to take on the rich, multi-racial collaboration was necessary. This fact could not prevent all racism in the movement, and movement segregation was never overcome. And when the movement waned the racist elements could come to the fore. (Wilmington in 1898 was one of the last stands of populism, with the People's Party dwindling to a tiny size). This shift to the right was driven in part by the pressures of things like the White Supremacy Campaign.

One of the most extreme cases is that of Tom Watson, who in 1896 had been the vice presidential candidate with Democrat William Jennings Bryan on the Populist Party ticket. During his time as a leader in the populist movement, he championed poor farmers and called for Black and white unity. He ran for president on the People's Party ticket in 1904 and 1908, but by that time, the populist movement was basically over. In the period that followed, Watson launched a new career publishing a rabidly racist magazine. Like the fascistic social-media influencers of today, his income depended upon inciting readers with anti-Black, antisemitic, and anti-Catholic/southern European immigrant garbage. He also denounced socialism, which other former populists were embracing.

My argument is not that true populists could not be racist. On the contrary, the inherent contradictions of the movement – its class and national composition, the post-Reconstruction dynamics – are the very source of its pitfalls. There was no pure populism that was then corrupted by influences from outside. Nevertheless, there are essential tendencies of the movement to consider. Again, the tendency toward the alliance of Black and white labor on the basis of their shared class interests. The turn of white populists in North Carolina to accept the logic of the Democrat's White Supremacy Campaign — to attack the Democrats from the right, attempting to be more racist than them: That is an example of the emancipatory potential of populism being squandered.

Du Bois is again helpful in thinking through this troubling problem. There is an analogy with the Northern Union's position on slavery during the war. Even though the Northern Union's initial aim was not to end slavery, it became apparent – because of the objective situation in front of them – that it was impossible to preserve the United States without ending slavery. They had to become anti-slavery, regardless of their personal prejudices.

Until late in the war, Lincoln himself did not always envision an integrated society. He considered many proposals regarding the day after emancipation, one of which was the mass deportation of Black people to Africa. When presented with mathematical proof that this was unfeasible, Lincoln abandoned the idea. (Black Reconstruction in America)

The Northern Union forces had to align themselves with the Black masses who were emancipating themselves during the war, and through shared struggle, many became more progressive. Similarly, when the populist wave appeared, the struggle required unity across race, even if that was never fully achieved. When Reconstruction was defeated, reaction held sway. When populism was defeated, likewise. #

Farewell to a revolutionary: Rochester's Lydia Bayoneta

By Scott Scheffer

Lydia Bayoneta, center, on stage with Sam Marcy.

Bayoneta, left of center with fist raised, confronting the KKK in Houston, 1977.

Lydia Bayoneta, 79, of Rochester, New York, died on Dec. 18 after a long illness. Revolutionary struggle was her life's work, and for years, she could be spotted at any progressive action on the street or in a meeting hall in Rochester. She gave much to the working-class movement and will be greatly missed.

Bayoneta was born in the Philippines and came to the U.S. with her family in the 1950s. Coming from a country colonized by the United States and influenced as a young adult by Black and Brown liberation struggles, the anti-Vietnam War movement in the U.S., and the emerging LGBTQ+ and women's movements, Bayoneta became an ardent communist and working-class leader. She was a partisan of U.S. Marxist leader Sam Marcy and became an integral part of an important branch in Rochester.

During her decades of political work, Bayoneta helped to organize anti-war demonstrations, fought against city budget cuts that threatened to close recreation centers for youth, and took part in the fight against racism and police brutality.

She helped to found and organize the People's Energy Committee. PEC meetings attracted primarily struggling women from Rochester's impoverished Black and Puerto Rican communities. Together, they fought the Rochester Gas and Electric company that had been turning off people's utilities, even in the harsh Rochester winters. They held picket lines and sit-ins and took arrests. They finally forced the utility into an agreement prohibiting shut-offs in the winter months. The agreement was called the "Nero agreement," named after Erskine Nero, one of RG&E's shut-off victims, who was enlightened by the whole process and joined the revolutionary struggle.

In 1982, when the infamous Zionist general Ariel Sharon pulled back the Israeli Army to allow their fascist allies in Lebanon to attack the Palestinian refugee camps of Sabra and Shatila, Bayoneta helped to organize a mass meeting to expose the role of the U.S. in the oppression of the Palestinian people and their complicity in the murder of up to 3,500 people in the camps.

When Rochester City Council refused to consider a proposal to recognize Gay Pride, Bayoneta was among the loudest in a raucous crowd. This was part of a struggle that was a milestone for the LGBTQ+ movement.

Sam Marcy often coached activists to be "mild in manner and bold in matter." That was Lydia Bayoneta. She was kind and gentle with most people, and at the same time, passionate in her hatred of racism, quick to anger, and capable of channeling her anger into expert organizing and sometimes actual fighting.

In 1977, she went to Houston, Texas, for the National Women's Conference to promote a working-class agenda for women: free, safe abortions, no forced sterilization, and for a society where all women can raise healthy children. At the main convention site, a street battle erupted when a KKK-Christian Defense League unit marched outside. Bayoneta was among a group of women who surrounded and scrapped with one of the KKK organizers, who had to be rescued by the police. Another time, when a drunken bar patron in Rochester yelled a racial slur at her after an organizing meeting in the office next door to the bar he came out of, she got out of her car and put up her fists, challenging the racist to a fight. He backed away.

Bayoneta led one of the first classes af-

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Fernando González, President of ICAP: ‘With Trump we can expect even more aggression”

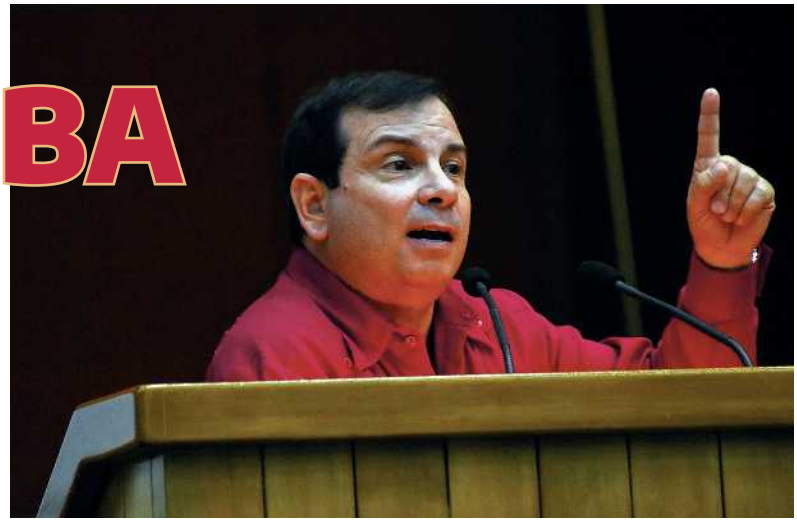
January 3, 2024

As the island goes through one of its worst economic crises, the president of the Cuban Institute of Friendship with the Peoples, Fernando Gonzalez, believes that international solidarity is now “more essential than ever.”

Hurricanes, earthquakes, economic crisis and soon the return of the extreme right-wing Republican to the White House... The situation seems very worrying for Cuba and its revolution. For the president of the Cuban Institute of Friendship with the Peoples (ICAP), Fernando Gonzalez, who foresees four years of even harsher policies against his country, “international solidarity is now more essential than ever”.

However, there is no room for despair for the island, which has always been able to reinvent itself and defy all obstacles. Interview with the former Cuban intelligence agent, one of the “Cuban Five” awarded the title of “Hero of the Republic of Cuba” after serving sixteen years in prison in the United States for infiltrating paramilitary circles planning attacks against his country.

CUBA



Fernando Gonzalez, President of Cuban Institute of Friendship with the Peoples (ICAP.)

Photo: Bill Hackwell

What is the situation in Cuba after the last hurricanes that hit the island?

The situation in Cuba is very complex. We have had two hurricanes and an earthquake, which have caused considerable damage. But the government, at all levels, is trying to implement all the necessary structural measures to correct the situation. Some issues, such as power, water and telephone outages, have already advanced at a good pace in their recovery, while others, such as damage to buildings or homes, will take longer, not for lack of will, but because of the limited resources we have.

It is worth remembering that these calamities occur at a time when the Cuban economy is in an extremely complex situation. It has not had the capacity to grow in recent years, which is due in part to the very limited availability of resources. In spite of this, the government’s desire continues to be to provide solutions and not to leave anyone in difficulties.

What are the factors that explain the failures of the electrical system, apart from the impact of natural disasters?

The issue of the electrical system is very complex. Even before the cyclones, we had already experienced an episode in which the entire electrical system was down due to technical problems. Today, we can say that a big part of it has been restored, but there is still a fundamental problem: the production capacity at the national level still does not cover the total demand of the population.

In Cuba, the demand is about 3,000 megawatts per day, so if we only produce 1,700 megawatts, we will have a deficit that we will not be able to cover. For now, the only way to solve this problem is to schedule power outages. Clearly, the situation means that at certain times of the day, the population has to suffer power cuts. And that translates into discomfort for people, irritation.

To what extent does the U.S. blockade affect the Cuban electrical system?

Our thermoelectric power plants are more than 30 years old. It is not always possible to carry out the necessary repairs, for various reasons, among which is precisely the high and constant demand for electricity. And, of course, there are all the issues related to the blockade which, for example, prevents us from accessing the spare parts or materials needed to carry out the required repairs in the power plants.

There is also the question of dependence on oil to fuel these power plants....

In fact, this is in addition to the problems I just mentioned. Our country does not always have all the fuel needed to produce this electricity. Once again, at the root of this fundamental problem is

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Lydia Bayoneta

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ter “Struggle for Socialism/La Lucha por el Socialismo” was founded in 2018. Her decades of experience and study were evident. She spoke at length about Lenin’s perspective on economism, which was an attempt by opportunist social democrats to steer the Russian revolutionary movement toward organizing workers for narrow economic gains, setting aside revolutionary politics. Bayoneta expertly explained Lenin’s view that the revolutionary struggle must not be postponed by confining workers’ efforts solely to achieving improved wages and working conditions.

With Gene Clancy, her comrade and life partner of 59 years, who also died this year, Bayoneta helped educate many in the revolutionary struggle of the working class. They were working-class leaders who led by example. She was widely admired, and her militant spirit and contributions to the class struggle will not be forgotten. Lydia Bayoneta, Presente! #

Fernando González, President of ICAP:
'With Trump we can expect even more aggression'

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Photo: Bill Hackwell

the ruthless economic war waged against us by the United States.

Because it is very difficult for Cuba to buy oil abroad, not only because of our financial limitations, but also because of the barriers that the U.S. government has erected to prevent our supply from arriving.

Often, even if you have the funds, it is very difficult to bring oil tankers to Cuba, because the companies that trade with us (from shipping companies to insurance companies) are persecuted and can be subject to sanctions by U.S. authorities simply for carrying out a common business transaction afforded most countries in the world. Very few people are willing to send fuel to Cuba. This is a direct consequence of the blockade.

What role can international solidarity with Cuba play, if not to remedy, at least to mitigate the effects of the U.S. blockade?

It is essential. Cuba is a small country, which does not have many resources, but which proposes an alternative form of society, organized in a different way that is not only around the profits of certain interest groups.

It is a society organized around the human being, and I think it offers an alternative to individualism, while everywhere else the benefits are reserved only for certain sectors in the hands of the private sector, leaving aside the vast majority of the population. And I believe that this is the origin of the war that is being waged against Cuba: the objective is to try to erase this example of another model of society that we offer.

Far be it for me to pretend that everything in Cuba is perfect, there are many things we could have done better, and also things we have done that in the long run we have realized were mistakes.

Sometimes things do not go as we intended, however, everything that is done here is aimed at serving the majority of the population. No measure is adopted in pursuit of a particular interest, or because a sector of the economy has been able to buy the vote of deputies or members of the government. Everything that is done in Cuba is done with the human being and the improvement of the living conditions of the majority of Cubans in mind.

We think above all of the collective, we try to build a society that seeks the common good and, through this common good, the individual good of the citizens.

Being in solidarity with Cuba is not only a humanitarian question, there is a political and ideological question....

It is important to defend the right to life of Cubans and through this the right to exist as an alternative society that we propose, especially in the current circumstances when the United States is waging a war against Cuba in an attempt to suffocate its economy, in the hope that the people will withdraw their support for the revolutionary government.

Solidarity with our country, with our revolution, has always existed, but today it is even more important, and even essential in these difficult times we are going through.

Broad diplomatic support is not enough?

The moral victory obtained at the United Nations shows, once again, that Cuba is far from being alone at the international level, quite the contrary. But we know very well that this support does not mean the end of the blockade. Today's slogan is to demand with all our might that Cuba be removed from the infamous State Sponsors of Terrorism (SSOT) created by our northern neighbor. Together, Cuba and its supporters must find the formula that will allow us to reach out to the U.S. government and reverse this absurd measure.

We are in an extremely complex scenario, and we say it clearly: today more than ever we need international solidarity. We need new voices to denounce the injustice committed against Cuba and to find new ways to defend international law.

What can we expect from the United States now that Republican Donald Trump is about to return to power?

Some of their administrations have been more aggressive, others not so much, but at the end of the day, we know that there is a consensus within the political class in this country, whether they are Democrats or Republicans, on how to deal with Cuba. They have always sought, in one way or another, to stifle our economy in an attempt to get our people to withdraw their support for their government.

We do not expect much from the new U.S. presidency. Our flag is and will always be to defend our independence and sovereignty, tooth and nail, whatever it takes.

If we look at the results of Donald Trump's four years in the White House, we can imagine what awaits us: four years of even harsher policies against Cuba. He will surely try by all means to continue limiting as much as possible the little room for maneuver we have to stay afloat economically.

The appointment of Marco Rubio to the Foreign Affairs post does not bode well.

Indeed, Donald Trump's arrival will be aggravated by the fact that his likely Secretary of State is a person who has a personal vendetta to take against Cuba. For any other secretary of state, Cuba might be, for example, a footnote. But not for this person.

Therefore, we can expect the aggressiveness and efforts of the U.S. government, which have been going on for 60 years to try to suffocate the Cuban economy, to intensify in the next four years. They will pursue their unattainable dream: that the Cuban people will blame their government for the calamities and needs they suffer. We will face this new scenario with the support and help of international solidarity.

We know that we have many friends around the world, millions of people know the reality of our country and support us, which gives us strength to continue fighting. There is no room for despair. Cuba reinvents itself every day, with its own effort and with the precious company of activists from all over the world. The Trump administration is about to arrive, and then it will move on. The Cuban revolution will always be there.

Source: Resumen Latinoamericano – Buenos Aires

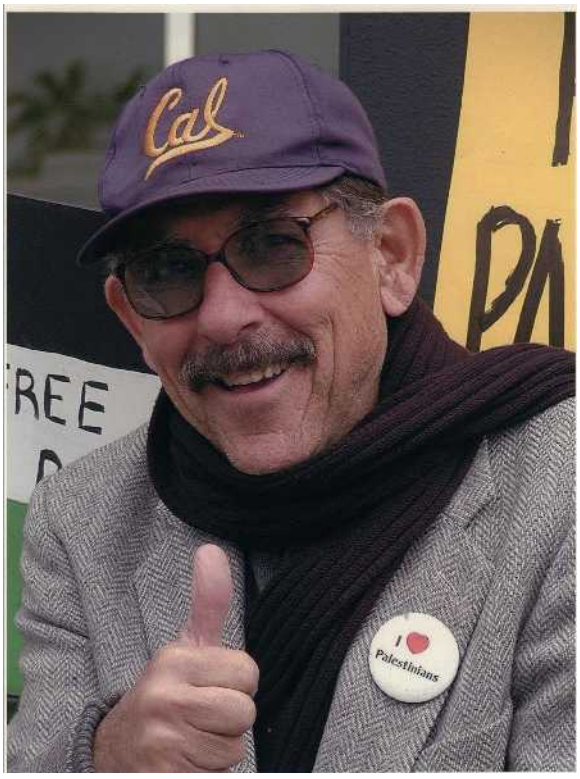
Rudy Pisani – A life well lived

By Struggle-La Lucha Los Angeles

Friends and comrades came together at the Harriet Tubman Center for Social Justice in Los Angeles on Dec. 15 to celebrate the phenomenon that was Rudy Pisani. Rudy Pisani was a much-beloved activist in the anti-imperialist, workers, and socialist movements.

Throughout his life, Rudy stood shoulder to shoulder with the oppressed of our working class. A dedicated communist, Rudy was entirely committed to international solidarity and building a workers' movement here in the belly of the beast. The program opened with videos of Rudy singing the famous communist anthem, The International, in French and Italian. Activists and leaders in the international and local movements spoke warmly about Rudy.

His life partner and wife, Rosa Pisani, spoke. John Parker, the West Coast coordinator of Struggle-La Lucha and the HTC coordinator, opened. Eric Mann, the founder of the Bus Riders Union, spoke of Rudy's iron-clad commitment to workers. The Union of Progressive Iranians leader, Mo Mansuri, spoke. Fernando Ledezma, a member of the United Teachers of Los Angeles, talked about how indefatigable Rudy was at protests. Sekou Parker spoke of the warmth and vigor of Rudy, who he'd known for nearly all his 26 years. Parker said that Rudy always greeted him with two truths: Down with U.S. imperialism and F*ck the Police. Sekou said his friends would be a little taken aback by Rudy's enthusiasm, and Sekou would tell them, "Well, he's not wrong."



Rudy Pisani, April 6, 1930 - Oct. 15, 2024.

The day's remembrances and salutes to Rudy by comrades and friends came to a close with a rousing rendition of The International.

Cliff Olin, Rudy's long-time friend and comrade, shared some of Rudy's life story, which is excerpted here:

Rudy Pisani was born in Morocco and grew up in Casablanca, Algeria, which was then a French colony. His father spoke Italian, and his mother spoke French. As a young man, he learned Spanish.

In 1951, at his mom's insistence, he moved to Ohio to live with his sister and brother-in-law to avoid being forced to serve in Vietnam with the French Foreign Legion. Ironically, after living in Ohio for a few months and knowing very little English, he was drafted by the U.S. Army to serve in Korea. He was forever a stalwart defender of workers in South Korea and the revolutionary Democratic People's Republic of Korea. One of his mantras was, "Long live Kim il Sung!"

By the early 1970s, he had become more and more disenchanted by the double standard inherent in U.S. foreign policy. He found work as an organizer for the Culinary Workers Union while also working for years in a meat packing plant in Vernon.

He joined the Communist Party and worked as an organizer to elect Angela Davis as vice president in the 1980 and 1984 campaigns. He later joined his comrades at the Harriet Tubman Center and the Bus Riders Union. His fluency in Spanish and sympathy for immigrants led him to dedicate untold hours to struggles for immigrant rights, and solidarity with political refugees from El Salvador and Guatemala, as well as with L.A.-based Sandinista activists. In the early 1980s, he met and married Rosa, the love of his life.

Though a vigorous and outspoken critic of U.S. military intervention, he kept his veterans' ID in his wallet and regularly showed it to police or guards when threatened with arrest at countless marches and protests. "I'm a veteran." He would go to Veteran's Day lunches and talk to vets about how the "system is rotten to the core, not the American people, the system."

His powerful voice boomed over a crowd, so he was easy to find at protests for immigrant rights and against U.S. imperialism, and he appeared in interviews on TV news reports in Spanish and English because he was a dramatic and articulate speaker.

He had a gentle, persuasive voice when speaking to young people about social injustices. They knew he spoke from the heart and responded well to him even when he was in his late eighties or early nineties.

He had a great love of jazz music and often went to jazz clubs. He had a mellow side and was intensely loyal to friends. He is dearly remembered by the progressive community.

Hasta la Victoria, Siempre, Compañero.

Thousands died building the Panama Canal

Continued from page 9

and occupation of Syria have sharpened their appetites.

Their role model is the war criminal Netanyahu, who was welcomed rapturously by Congress in July. A courageous exception was Rashida Harbi Tlaib, the only Palestinian-American member of Congress.

The Pentagon is planning to attack Iran. The People's Republic of China is the biggest target of the military-industrial complex.

Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and Venezuela are also in the Pentagon's crosshairs. Trump wants to deport millions of immigrants.

To stop these monsters, the people's power must be organized. We need to start by flooding Washington, D.C., on Jan. 20 to protest Trump's inauguration as well as building local protests across the country. #

Sally O'Brien Solidarity between a Woman and an Island

January 3, 2025

Last December 30, as it was preparing to say goodbye to another year, Cuba suffered the forced farewell of a friend: that day Sally O'Brien, the communicator and activist who taught many Cubans "to look at the United States from the perspective of its most committed children", died in her modest apartment in Brooklyn, New York.

The phrase in quotation marks, by our diplomat Orestes Hernández Hernández, would fit perfectly as an epitaph to remember this woman who together with her husband Pedro (Shango) constituted an exemplary couple of solidarity with Cubans from the very heart of the empire that blockades us.

"We knew of her broken health but, as it happens with the people we love, we never accepted the arrival of death", Orestes wrote on her Facebook wall, surely with the suspicion that she hated walls.

Executive producer and journalist of the program -created in 1991 and disappeared after almost thirty years of broadcasting- Cuba in Focus, of the New York station WBAI/Pacifica Radio-99.5 FM, Sally presented, with her colleague Margaret Gilpin, that Sunday hour of news, events and debates about Cuba and U.S. policy towards the neighboring country, with bold approaches that, paradoxically, did not "fit" in the mainstream media.

She had begun her professional career in 1980, in the news department of WBAI. She was a street reporter, associate news director, public affairs director and executive producer of several programs. In addition, she designed and managed a news department at WOMR-FM in Provincetown, Massachusetts.

An advocate for great causes, her love for the Five Cuban anti-terrorist fighters imprisoned in the United States came naturally to her, so that in 2008 she produced and directed, along with Jennifer Wager, the documentary "Against the silence: families of the Cuban five speak out".

René, Gerardo, Antonio, Ramón and Fernando were not only defended by a friend, but also by a prestigious professional who stamped her signature, indistinctly, in renowned media such as The Nation, The Guardian, The City Sun and The Advocate.

Sally O'Brien also supported the imprisoned journalist Mumia Abu-Jamal and other fighters in similar situations, some of them real political prisoners in the United States.

On her agenda were constant themes vindicating the struggles of Cubans and Puerto Ricans, a vision that linked her action with the yearnings of the Cuban Revolutionary Party founded in New York by our own José Martí to achieve one independence and help the other.

This special friend also had the energy and wisdom to work for 18 years as an audio engineer at the United Nations radio station.

Such professional, ideological and human attributes nurtured the praise in the official resolution that one day placed on Sally O'Brien's chest the Félix Elmusa Distinction of the UPEC, the highest recognition that the journalistic guild in Cuba gives to professionals of sustained trajectory and merits.

It is to be imagined that this honor was part of the fuel for the solidarity of the communicator who, in the midst of the most opportunistic media harassment against Cuba, signed in New York, together with other American colleagues, a declaration of support for the Cuban Revolution after the violent events of July 11, 2021 in several cities and towns of the island.

"Ninety miles from the coasts of the United States of America lies the sovereign and independent nation of the Socialist Republic of Cuba," the document stated on July 13 of that year, making it clear who is free and who is submissive in today's geopolitics.

And while, now as then, some try to soften or deny the nature of the siege with the term "embargo", Sally and her colleagues portrayed it as it is: "For more than sixty years, practically since the triumph of the Cuban Revolution in 1959, the United States, through a variety of overt and covert means, has tried to overthrow the Cuban government. The most well known, overt and illegal economic blockade, according to most nations of the world, was through an economic blockade which, according to most nations of the world, is the longest in history".

The rest of the text can be imagined, but when the friend has left to show solidarity from another dimension, with the legacy she leaves behind, which is no small thing, it is worth remembering how, as a result of that violence, which was strongly encouraged from the North, she and her companions denounced a communicational hypocrisy that is still unhappily intact: "In contrast to the scant media attention given on June 23 to the 184 UN member states calling on the United States to end the U.S. economic blockade against Cuba, Sunday's protests made newspaper headlines and were broadcast on television screens in the United States and around the world."

Along with the personal ones, the good dead usually leave collective mourners. On December 31, Orestes Hernández Hernández received an anguished call from Pedro (Shango), her husband: "Sally passed away last night..." and he immediately called from his Facebook page to tell Cuba in anguish: Sally O'Brien has died!

Pedro (Shango), Orestes and Cubans, especially journalists, will fondly remember the woman who became a family of our diplomats in New York and supported with them Fidel Castro's visit to that city in 2000 for the Millennium Summit.

The couple spent several times in Cuba, where Sally received, in the face of the illness that has apparently overcome her, the love therapies of a land that she cared for, from her breast to her hands, as many times as enemies appeared in the path of the woman and the Island.

Translation Resumen Latinoamericano – English

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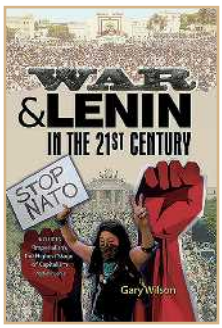

Sally O'Brien

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esposo Pedro (Shango) constituyó una ejemplar pareja de solidaridad con los cubanos desde el corazón mismo del imperio que nos bloquea.

"Sabíamos de su quebrantada salud pero, como pasa con las personas que uno quiere, nunca aceptamos la llegada de la muerte", apuntó Orestes en su muro de Facebook, seguramente con la suspicacia de reparar en que ella detestaba los muros.

Productora ejecutiva y periodista del espacio —creado en 1991 y desparecido luego de casi treinta años de emisiones— Cuba en Foco, de la neoyorquina planta WBAI/Pacifica Radio-99.5 FM, Sally presentó, con la colega Margaret Gilpin, esa hora dominical de noticias, eventos y debates en torno a Cuba y a la política de Estados Unidos para con el país vecino, con enfoques audaces que, ¡vaya paradoja!, no "cabían" en los grandes medios.

Había comenzado su andadura profesional en 1980, en el departamento de noticias de la WBAI. Fue reportera de calle, directora asociada de noticias, directora de asuntos públicos y productora ejecutiva de varios programas. Además, diseñó y dirigió un departamento de noticias en WOMR-FM en Provincetown, Massachusetts.

Defensora de grandes causas, el amor por Los Cinco luchadores antiterroristas cubanos encarcelados en Estados Unidos le salió natural, de modo que en 2008 produjo y dirigió, junto a Jennifer Wager, el documental "Against the silence: families of the cuban five speak out".

A René, Gerardo, Antonio, Ramón y Fernando no les defendía entonces solo una amiga, sino una profesional prestigiosa que estampó su firma, indistintamente, en medios reconocidos como The Nation, The Guardian, The City Sun y The Advocate.

Sally O'Brien respaldó además al periodista encarcelado Mumia Abu-Jamal y a otros luchadores en situación parecida, algunos de ellos auténticos prisioneros políticos en Estados Unidos.

En su agenda eran constantes los temas reivindicativos de las luchas de cubanos y puertorriqueños, una visión que enlazaba su acción con los anhelos del Partido Revolucionario Cubano fundado en Nueva York por nuestro José Martí para alcanzar una independencia y auxiliar la otra.

Sally O'Brien, American journalist and activist and friend of Cuba, receiving the Felix Elmuza Distinction this year.

Photo: Yoandry Avila Guerra

Esta amiga especial tuvo también energía y sapiencia para trabajar por 18 años como ingeniera de audio en la emisora de las Naciones Unidas.

Tales atributos profesionales, ideológicos y humanos nutrieron el elogio en la resolución oficial que un día puso en el pecho de Sally O'Brien la Distinción Félix Elmusa, de la UPEC, el mayor reconocimiento que hace el gremio periodístico en Cuba a los profesionales de trayectoria y méritos sostenidos.

Cabe imaginar que ese agasajo formó parte del combustible para el andar solidario de la comunicadora que en medio del más oportunista acoso mediático contra Cuba firmó en Nueva York, junto a otros colegas estadounidenses, una declaración de respaldo a la Revolución Cubana tras los sucesos violentos del 11 de julio de 2021 en varias ciudades y pueblos de la Isla.

"A noventa millas de las costas de los Estados Unidos de América se encuentra la nación soberana e independiente de la República Socialista de Cuba", marcaba posición el documento, el 13 de julio de ese año, dejando claro quién es el libre y quién el sumiso en la geopolítica actual.

Y mientras, ahora como entonces, algunos intentan suavizar o negar la naturaleza del cerco con el término "embargo", Sally y sus compañeros lo retrataban tal cual es: "Durante más de sesenta años, prácticamente desde el triunfo de la Revolución Cubana en 1959, Estados Unidos, mediante una variedad de medios abiertos y encubiertos, ha tratado de derrocar al gobierno cubano. El bloqueo económico más conocido, abierto e ilegal, según la mayoría de las naciones del mundo, se produjo a través de un bloqueo económico que, según la mayoría de las naciones del mundo, es el más largo de la historia".

El resto del texto puede imaginarse, pero cuando la amiga ha partido a hacer solidaridad desde otra dimensión, con el legado que deja, que no es poco, vale recordar cómo a raíz de aquella violencia harto estimulada desde el Norte ella y sus compañeros denunciaban una hipocresía comunicacional que sigue infelizmente intacta: "En contraste con la escasa atención mediática que se dio el 23 de junio a los 184 estados miembros de la ONU que pidieron a Estados Unidos que pusiera fin al bloqueo económico estadounidense contra Cuba, las protestas del domingo ocuparon los titulares de los periódicos y se transmitieron en las pantallas de televisión de Estados Unidos y de todo el mundo".

Junto a los personales, los buenos muertos suelen dejar dolientes colectivos. Orestes Hernández Hernández recibió el 31 de diciembre la llamada angustiada de Pedro (Shango), el esposo: "Sally falleció anoche…" y enseguida llamó desde su espacio en Facebook para, angustiado, decirle a Cuba: ¡Ha muerto Sally O'Brien!

Pedro (Shango), Orestes y los cubanos, en especial los periodistas, recordarán con cariño a la mujer que en Nueva York se hizo familia de nuestros diplomáticos y respaldó con ellos la visita que en el año 2000 hiciera Fidel Castro a esa ciudad para la Cumbre del Milenio.

El matrimonio estuvo varias veces en Cuba, donde Sally recibió, ante la enfermedad que aparentemente la ha vencido, las terapias de amor de una tierra que ella cuidó, desde su pecho a sus manos, tantas veces como enemigos aparecieron en el camino de la mujer y la Isla. #

¡Puerto Rico No se Vende, se Defiende!

Por Berta Joubert-Ceci

Una calle a oscuras durante un apagón en San Juan, Puerto Rico, tras la puesta de sol del martes 31 de diciembre de 2024.

Este año 2025 ha comenzado en Puerto Rico con varios acontecimientos que auguran un futuro de luchas incesantes.

El primero fue en Nochevieja cuando un apagón general cayo´como maldición sobre el ambiente festivo del pueblo que esperaba con sus familiares el Año Nuevo. Por culpa de la mala operación del privatizador de la energía Luma Energy, quien hasta el día de hoy, ni siquiera se ha dignado a enfrentarse al pueblo y decirnos cual fue la causa. Fue un recoradorio de que a la lucha contra la privatización no se le puede dar pausa.

Dos día más tarde, juramentaba la nueva gobernadora, o más bien dictadora, Jeniffer González. Esta señora se desempeñó como Comisionada Residente en Washington, Distrito de Colombia. El papel de Comisionada o Comisionado es uno totalmente vergonzoso que intenta validar una supuesta representación de la Colonia en el Congreso estadounidense. Eso sí con voz, pero sin voto. La señora llegó a Fortaleza, la sede de la gobernación, a base de una enorme campaña de mentiras pagada por empresas millonarias gringas y locales que intentan apropiarse por completo de nuestro archipiélago. Y en su empeño, no dudan por destruir nuestro medioambiente. Un ejemplo notorio ha sido la primera acción del recién nombrado Sectretario de Recursos Naturales y Ambientales, Waldemar Quiles Pérez, quien a petición de su jefa Jeniffer, firmó tan pronto pudo, su primera orden administrativa, para archivar los casos relacionados con construcciones ilegales en terrenos marítimo-terrestres. Estas áreas en Puerto Rico son protegidas y públicas donde supuestamente por ley, todo el pueblo tiene acceso a sus playas y no se debe construir en ellas porque amenazan las costas al destruir dunas, mangles y corales que son las barreras naturales contra la erosión costera y los tsunamis. Esta orden, totalmente ilegal, favorece a la familia de la gobernadora quien tiene propiedades en una de éstas áreas protegidas. De más está decir que ya se ha puesto en movimiento una respuesta en su contra por parte de los movimientos y legisladores y legisladoras progresistas.

Y como un recordatorio por lo que vendrá en el futuro de lucha más bien cercano, sale la noticia por documentos desclasificados, que la CIA operó desde Puerto Rico durante la década de 1970, espiando a los grupos independentistas. Esto ya se sabía en los círculos de la resistencia, pero ahora sale públicamante a la luz.

Para finalizar hablando de los últimos acontecimientos, el artista boricua Benito Antonio Martínez Ocasio, mejor conocido como Bad Bunny, nos regala su último álbum “Debí Tirar Más Fotos” totalmente dedicado a Puerto Rico. Fuera de sus éxitos a nivel mundial, este álbum ha traido a la conciencia de nuestro pueblo el terrible peligro que enfrentamos, nuestra desaparición como pueblo boricua y la sustitución por extranjeros, igual como le pasó a Hawaii, que por cierto es una de sus canciones en el álbum.

Pero también tenemos nuestro historial de lucha desde el mismo día en que los yankis nos invadieron en 1898. Por eso ahora, en el 2025 estaremos en las calles y en todos los espacios necesarios, para decir que ¡Puerto Rico No se Vende, se Defiende!

Desde Puerto Rico, para Radio Clarín de Colombia, les habló Berta Joubert-Ceci.

Sally O’Brien

solidaridad entre una mujer y una Isla

Por Redacción Cubaperiodistas
enero 3, 2025

Sally O’Brien, periodista y activista norteamericana amiga de Cuba, al recibir la Distinción Félix Elmuza este año.

Foto: Yoandry Avila Guerra

El pasado 30 diciembre, mientras se disponía altiva a despedir otro año, Cuba sufrió la despedida forzada de una amiga: ese día moría en su modesto apartamento de Brooklyn, Nueva York, Sally O’Brien, la comunicadora y activista que enseñó a muchos cubanos “a mirar a los Estados Unidos desde la perspectiva de sus hijos más comprometidos”.

La frase entrecomillada, del diplomático nuestro Orestes Hernández Hernández, encajaría perfectamente como epitafio para recordar a esta mujer que junto a su

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STRUGGLE ★ LA LUCHA
for Socialism | por el Socialismo
Vol. 8, No. 1 Jan 13, 2025 Vol. 8, Núm. 1 13 de enero 2025